



The Hon Simon Crean MP
Federal Minister for Regional
Australia, Regional Development
and Local Government
Minister for the Arts

Katy Gallagher MLA
ACT Chief Minister
Minister for Health
Minister for Territory and
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LOCAL ARTIST TO TAKE UP CENTENARY SCIENTIFIC RESIDENCY

Minister for Regional Australia Simon Crean and ACT Chief Minister Katy Gallagher today announced that local artist Eleanor Gates-Stuart has been commissioned to produce a major science-based artwork as part of the Centenary of Canberra celebrations.

The winning concept by Ms Gates-Stuart is StellarScope, a major visual arts production that will explore the Canberra region's connection to the Australian wheat industry, from the 1800s to the modern era.

Through the Centenary Science Art Commission, Ms Gates-Stuart will commence a residency with the CSIRO to produce a series of scientific digital artworks.

Mr Crean said the winning project proposal joined the dots between art, science and agriculture, adding an interesting dimension to the dynamic Centenary of Canberra program.

"Australia punches well above its weight on the international stage when it comes to achievements in science, technology and agriculture, and visual arts can help communicate these triumphs to a wider audience," Mr Crean said.

"The Centenary of Canberra is an opportunity for all Australians to celebrate the great achievements of the Canberra region and indeed our nation.

"That is why the Australian Government has contributed \$67.6 million to Canberra's centenary celebrations.

"I am delighted that the Centenary program will engage people on so many different levels and I look forward to seeing Ms Gates-Stuart's work on display next year."

ACT Chief Minister Katy Gallagher said recognising Canberra's role in the nation's scientific achievements will be an important goal and legacy of the year-long Centenary program.

“Stemming from an original initiative of Creative Director Robyn Archer AO, the science-arts commission forms part of the *Innovation and Discovery* stream of the program, which will explore a variety of interesting ways to draw attention to the great strengths of Canberra in the field of science,” the Chief Minister said.

“Many of Australia’s national scientific organisations and institutions are already well-advanced in planning for their celebration of the Centenary of Canberra in 2013, and will be using the opportunity to reflect on past achievements as well as looking to the future.

“I commend the selection panel on their choice of Eleanor Gates-Stuart as someone with the knowledge, experience and commitment to realise the ambitious goals of this project, and I congratulate Eleanor on the important role she will play in our celebration of the Centenary of Canberra,” the Chief Minister concluded.

Ms Gates-Stuart’s residency at CSIRO will culminate in a series of scientific digital artworks for exhibition at Questacon in August 2013, and an exhibition documenting the StellarScope residency will be presented at the CSIRO Discovery Centre.

The Centenary Science Art Commission is jointly funded by the Australian Government and the ACT Government and is one of many projects taking place to mark the Centenary of Canberra in 2013.

For more information about the Centenary of Canberra celebrations visit

<http://www.canberra100.com.au/>

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